

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

TO: THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

COUNCIL MEETING DATE
DECEMBER 21, 1988

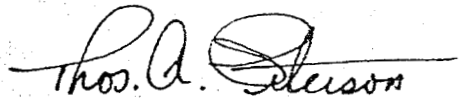
SUBJECT: REPORT REGARDING USE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AND WORK FURLOUGH PROGRAMS

PREPARED BY: City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: None required. Information only.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Councilmember Hinchman recently requested a brief report regarding the extent to which the City utilizes people placed in Community Service and Work Furlough programs. Councilmembers were recently sent a copy of this report. This item appears on this agenda for information only. A copy of the report is attached (Exhibit A).

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. Peterson
City Manager

TAP:br

Attachment

COUNC480

M E M O R A N D U M
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TO: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

FROM: City Manager

DATE: December 2, 1988

SUBJ: Use of Community Service and Work Furlough Programs

At a recent City Council meeting, the Council requested a report prior to the end of the year on the City's use of temporary part-time help available through the Community Service Program and the Work Furlough Program. The Community Service Program consists of court assignment of community service hours to persons convicted of various transgressions. This program has worked well at Hutchins Street Square, but has not proven effective elsewhere in the organization. The Sheriff's Work Furlough program, which consists of people working in lieu of jail time, is utilized to some extent. It has proven to be of value in one area (the City garage), but generally unsatisfactory in others.

Attached for the City Council review are copies of memos written at my request by those department and division heads who are now using or have used these programs.

TAP:br

Attachments

COUNC473

LODI PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
125 N. STOCKTON STREET
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95240
333-6742

FIELD/FACILITY CONDITIONS 333-6744

1 88
City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

TO: RONALD WILLIAMSON, DIRECTOR PARKS AND RECREATION DEPT.
FROM: SCOTT ESSIN, PARKS SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: OCTOBER 4, 1984
SUBJECT: USE OF COURT REFERRALS

IN RESPONSE TO THE CITY MANAGERS REQUEST ON OUR CURRENT USE OF COURT REFERRALS WE ARE NOT AT THIS TIME PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROGRAM. OUR REASONING IS THAT I DETERMINED THAT WE ARE CURRENTLY USING THE COUNTIES SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM TO DO MUCH OF THE WORK THAT THESE COURT REFERRALS WOULD DO.

WE RECEIVE BETWEEN SIX AND NINE FULL TIME EMPLOYEES WHO ARE FUNDED THROUGH THE COUNTY YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM. IN ADDITION WE HAVE USED THE CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM. WE RECEIVED TEN TO FIFTEEN FULL TIME YOUTHS LAST YEAR TO CLEAR DEBRIS IN THE RIVER. WHAT THE EFFECT OF YEAR ROUND SCHOOL MIGHT BE ON THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM HAS NOT AT THIS TIME BEEN ADDRESSED.

WE ALSO HAVE RECEIVED VOLUNTEER HELP FROM LOCAL CHURCH GROUPS AND CLUE ORGANIZATIONS. THE REMAINDER OF THE WORK WE NEED HELP ON IS NOT ESPECIALLY CONDUCTIVE TO THE INTENSIVE SUPERVISION NORMALLY ASSOCIATED WITH COURT REFERRALS. HOWEVER, IT HAS WORKED OUT WELL FOR OTHER DIVISIONS WHERE NO OTHER LABOR IS AVAILABLE.

THE GENERAL DIRECTION I AM TENDING TO PURSUE AT THIS TIME IS TO INCREASE THE SKILLED WORKERS WE HAVE AND TO DECREASE THE FULL TIME UNSKILLED WORKERS. MY GOAL IS TO HAVE BETTER TRAINED WORKERS WHO CAN SUPERVISE PART TIME UNSKILLED WORKERS. AS WE REACH THIS GOAL WE WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO PROPERLY USE THESE FREE LABOR PROGRAMS.

OCT 12 '88

City Manager's Office

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Tom Peterson, City Manager

FROM: Charlene Lange, Community Center Director *CL*

DATE: October 11, 1988

SUBJECT: Community Service Hours - Court Appointments

As per your request, our total hours of Community Service Workers at the Square during the last 18 months break out like this:

Square Maintenance	GG6 hours
Office Work	350 hours
Senior Information	950 hours

We have been fortunate to have several employees at Hutchins Street Square who have been willing to supervise these court-appointed people. Most notably, our maintenance man, Tom Wagner has provided clear-cut direction and support for the maintenance hours that have been donated to the Square.

Our total hours add up to 1,636 -- and we have appealed to Judge Tom Seibly for more assistance through his program.

NOV 01 '88

City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM, City of Lodi, Public Works Department

TO: City Manager
FROM: Public Works Director
DATE: October 21, 1988
SUBJECT: Use of Court-Assigned/Work Furlough Program Workers

The Public Works Department has been using court-assigned workers in the Building and Equipment Maintenance Division since 1981. These workers are assigned through the court to work a specified number of hours. The Public Works Department has also used the Sheriff's work furlough program at the White Slough Water Pollution Control Facility. That program was started approximately three years ago; however, it was discontinued in July of this year.

The court-appointed workers in the Equipment Maintenance Division have worked quite well. In order to work in that Division, the worker must have experience in mechanics and those that have been assigned to the Municipal Service Center garage have, on the whole, benefitted the City. The workers assigned to the Building Maintenance Division, however, did not work out as well and were more problem than they were worth. Building Maintenance Division is not using these workers for that reason.


Workers in the Sheriff's work furlough program are individuals who trade prison time for work time. These workers individually drove to the White Slough Water Pollution Control Facility, where they were used to do yard maintenance, painting, etc. In the 17 years prior to the start of this program, there had not been a break-in at White Slough or problems involving loss of equipment. Since the program began, there have been several break-ins with major losses, as well as the disappearance of tools and equipment including a chain saw. The most recent incident was in July when approximately \$4,500 worth of laboratory equipment was stolen. At that time, the City asked the program director to run a check on all former workers to see if any of their fingerprints matched those taken by the Sheriff's office at the time of the break-in. The Sheriff's Department would not do that comparison, and for that reason the program has been discontinued.

There were workers in the work furlough program at WSWPCF who were very good and things were accomplished that would not have been if this program was not used, but there were problems. Some of the workers under this program caused problems with the regular employees. Others were so bad that they were dismissed and the coordinator was notified not to have these workers return to the job site. Some required almost constant supervision to get a task completed. The situation at White Slough was in a confined area where the supervisor was on site and could make periodic checks easily. However, the workers were not continually under surveillance.

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Using prisoners or work furlough workers on City streets would entail more problems than those encountered at White Slough or in the Building and Equipment Maintenance Division because they wouldn't be in a confined area. The Street Division does not have the manpower to supervise nor the additional equipment needed for these workers. Also many of these workers have restricted driver's licenses which means they could not operate equipment and would have to be chaffered. Without one to one supervision, many of these workers will not work steadily, which could bring complaints from the general public who would see them as regular City employees. Also, unlike Caltrans, we don't have a lot of "cleanup" work and City crews work in neighborhoods not within a fenced freeway area.

Because of the above reasons and past experiences, the Public Works Department is not interested in using Court-Assigned/Work Furlough Program Workers, except in our Equipment Maintenance Division.


Jack L. Ronsko
Public Works Director

JLR/SB/mt